

First Named Inventor: Pat Reich

Application No.: 10/821,026

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REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated August 9, 2005, in which claims 9-13 were allowed, claims 5-8 were objected to and claims 1-4, 14 and 17 were rejected. Claims 1-14 and 17 are pending.

The Examiner maintained a rejection of claims 1-4, 14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Seegert et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,784,870 ("Seegert '870"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. As previously presented, claims 1 and 14 distinguished over Seegert '870 in that the arm included a shoulder that is connected to and extends generally normal to the arm, which shoulder is positioned to contact the outer edge of the cam wheel. Seegert '870 does not disclose, suggest or teach connecting a shoulder to an arm, with the shoulder extending generally normal to the arm, for contacting a cam wheel.

The Examiner has characterized element 80 of Seegert '870 as corresponding to an arm. As is clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 4 of Seegert '870, element 80 engages the cam wheel 76 along an end edge portion of element 80. Element 80 of Seegert '870 completely lacks a shoulder that extends normal to element 80.

For the sake of clarification, claims 1 and 14 have been amended to provide further clarification as to the lack of anticipation by Seegert '870. Seegert '870 does not show, suggest, or teach an arm connected at one end to a lever and at the opposite end to a deck lift mechanism, with a shoulder located between the opposite ends of the arm and extending generally normal to the arm. For these additional reasons, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1 and 14 and their respective dependent claims based on Seegert '870 and allow claims 1-4, 14 and 17.

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Respectfully submitted,

DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, PLLC

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By: John M. Weyrauch
John M. Weyrauch, Reg. No. 37,258

JMW:bms